



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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What's new at ABS ...

WHAT'S NEW AT ABS ...

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LIFE TABLES, QUEENSLAND, 2006-2008

[Life Tables, Queensland, 2006-2008](#) (cat. no. 3302.3.55.001) was released on 11 December 2009. This publication contains life tables for males and females resident in Queensland for the reference period. A life table is a statistical model used to represent mortality of a population. In its simplest form, a life table is generated from age-specific death rates and the resulting values are used to measure mortality, survivorship and life expectancy.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- For 2006-2008, life expectancy at birth was 78.9 years for males and 83.7 years for females.
- On average an 18 year old male could expect to live a further 61.6 years and an 18 year old female a further 66.2 years.
- On average a 65 year old male could expect to live a further 18.5 years and a 65 year old female a further 21.6 years.
- At the age of 80 a male could expect to live a further 8.3 years and females a further 9.9 years.

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RETIREMENT AND RETIREMENT INTENTIONS, AUSTRALIA, JUL 2008 TO JUN 2009

Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia, Jul 2008 to Jun 2009 (cat. no. 6238.0) was released on 17 December 2009. This publication presents information about the retirement status and retirement intentions of people aged 45 years and over who have, at some time, worked for two weeks or more. The data collected in the Retirement and Retirement Intentions topic provide information on retirement trends, the factors which influence decisions to retire, and the income arrangements that retirees and potential retirees have made to provide for their retirement. The data are cross-classified by a range of demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status and country of birth, as well as labour force characteristics.

The statistics in this publication were compiled from the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS), conducted throughout Australia during the 2008-09 financial year, as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Selected results for Queensland include:

- The average age at retirement from the labour force for people aged 45 years and over in 2008-09 was 58.6 years for males and 48.6 years for females.
- Of the 259,400 men who had retired from the labour force; 25% had retired aged less than 55 years, 52% had retired aged 55-64 years and 22% had retired aged 65 years and over. Of the 312,500 women who had retired from the labour force; 59% had retired aged less than 55 years, 36% had retired aged 55-64 years and 5.2% had retired aged 65 years and over.
- Retirement intentions differ considerably from actual retirement. The average age at which males 45 years and over intend to retire was 64.3 years and for females it was 63.2 years.
- Of the 366,300 males in the labour force who indicated that they intended to retire from the labour force; 22% intended to retire before age 65, 41% intended to retire after age 65 and 37% did not know the age at which they would retire. Of the 304,500 females in the labour force who indicated that they intended to retire from the labour force; 28% intended to retire before age 65, 30% intended to retire after age 65 and 42% did not know the age at which they would retire.

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JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE, AUSTRALIA, JULY 2009

Job Search Experience, Australia, July 2009 (cat. no. 6222.0) was released on 21 December 2009.

This publication provides estimates of unemployed persons classified by difficulties in finding work, duration of current period of unemployment, active steps taken to find work, whether looking for full-time or part-time work, educational attainment, and number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

The publication also provides estimates of employed persons who were formerly jobseekers but were now (as at the survey reference period) employed and were successful in securing that job in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics Section on (02) 6252 7206.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS, PUBLIC SECTOR, AUSTRALIA, 2008-09

Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002) was released on 17 December 2009. This publication contains estimates of number of public sector employees and cash wages and salaries by level of government by state. Also contains estimates of number of public sector employees and cash wages and salaries by industry for Australia. Additional unpublished information is available.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In June 2009, there were 365,200 public sector employees, an increase of 3.7% from June 2008. There were 30,700 employees in Commonwealth government, 295,300 in state government and 43,500 in local government in Queensland in June 2009.
- In 2008-09, wages and salaries paid to public sector employees totalled \$21,897 million. Commonwealth government employees accounted for \$1,996 million, state government employees for \$17,844 million and local government employees \$2,057 million.

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ESTIMATES OF PERSONAL INCOME FOR SMALL AREAS, TIME SERIES,

2003-04 TO 2006-07

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2006-07 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) was released on 17 December 2009. This release contains estimates of the sources and amount of personal income people received for the years 2003-04 to 2006-07, for Statistical Local Areas and other geographies (LGA, SSD, SD, State/Territory and Australia).

Data are provided on the number of individuals and the amount of income received from Wage and salary, Own unincorporated business, Investment, Superannuation and annuities, and Other income (excluding government pensions and allowances). An estimate of total income (excluding government pensions and allowances) is also provided.

The estimates have been compiled using aggregated individual income tax data from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The compilation of these data are part of the ABS' program to increase the availability of regional statistics, particularly through the use of administrative data collected by other government agencies. The ABS wishes to acknowledge the invaluable support of the ATO in compiling these statistics.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2006-07, average wage and salary income in Queensland was \$39,735, average own unincorporated business income was \$17,692, average investment income was \$7,569, average superannuation and annuity income was \$24,395, and average other income (excluding government pensions and allowances) was \$3,466.
- The statistical local area with the highest average wage and salary income was Broadsound in Isaac (R) with an average of \$62,133. Hamilton had the highest average own unincorporated business income with \$67,401 and Ascot had the highest average investment income with \$32,691. Blackall had the highest average superannuation and annuity income with \$54,787 and Pinjarra Hills had the highest average other income (excluding government pensions and allowances) with \$13,518.

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HOUSE PRICE INDEXES: CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS, AUSTRALIA, 2009

House Price Indexes: Concepts, Sources and Methods, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 6464.0) was released on 14 December 2009. The purpose of this publication is to provide a description of the concepts, sources and methods behind the House Price Index (HPI). It includes discussion of some general issues relating to the measurement of house prices and provides background on the stratification method used to control for the effect of changes in the composition and number of houses sold within each city. This publication also includes information on how to use price indexes and provides an overview of other data series and price indexes related to housing which are produced by the ABS and published with the HPI.

The last publication of this type was A Guide to House Price Indexes, Australia 2006 (cat. no. 6464.0). This Concepts, Sources and Methods publication supercedes the Guide in that it covers recent changes in the stratification method and weights. It also provides more information on how the HPI is calculated and on price index concepts in general.

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ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED DURING THE 16TH SERIES AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REVIEW, DEC 2009

Issues to be considered during the 16th Series Australian Consumer Price Index Review, Dec 2009 (cat. no. 6468.0) was released on 15 December 2009. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is subject to periodic reviews. While an important objective of the reviews is to update item weights, formal reviews also provide an opportunity to reassess the scope and coverage of the index and other methodological issues.

This information paper discusses major issues to be considered in the current review (16th series) and presents ABS preliminary views on these matters as a basis for public consultation. Issues to be addressed include: the principal purpose of the CPI; frequency of compilation, and evaluation of the measurement of the deposit and loan facilities index. Submissions to the review should reach the ABS by 12 March 2010.

Outcomes of the 16th series review consultation process are expected to be published in December 2010.

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HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AUSTRALIA, 2008-09

Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 8146.0) was released on 16 December 2009. This publication presents results compiled from household use of information technology (HUIT) data collected from the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) for 2008-09 and the Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (CPCLA) survey for April 2009.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2008-09, 80% of Queensland households had access to a home computer. This compares with 65% in 2003 and 44% in 1999.
- Internet access was available to 73% of households in 2008-09, 52% in 2003 and 20% in 1999.
- In 2008-09, of the 2,301,000 persons aged 15 years and over who accessed the Internet at home, 58% accessed the internet every day and 36% accessed it at least weekly.
- In 2008-09, 67% of persons aged 15 years and over used the internet to purchase goods or services.
- Dial-up access has been declining in recent years - in 2004-05, 40% of all households had dial-up access and this declined to 8% in 2008-09.
- Broadband access, in contrast has grown, from 16% of all households in 2004-05 to 64% of all households in 2008-09.
- Nearly one half (48%) of children aged 5-14 years who accessed the internet spent 2 hours or less per week on the Internet, 15% spent 3-4 hours, 19% spent 5-9 hours, 12% spent 10-19 hours and 4% spent more than 20 hours per week on the internet.



LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN THE GREAT BARRIER REEF CATCHMENTS, PRELIMINARY, 2008-09

Land Management Practices in the Great Barrier Reef Catchments, Preliminary , 2008-09 (cat. no. 4619.0) was released on 22 December 2009. This publication reports on the land management practices adopted by farmers in the Great Barrier Reef catchments.

The Great Barrier Reef is one of the worlds most significant natural assets. It makes a major contribution to Australia's social, economic and environmental well being.

To support the sustainable management of the Great Barrier Reef, the Australian Government is working with land managers in the catchments discharging into the reef to increase the adoption of management practices that contribute to improved water quality. The primary purpose of this survey was to provide benchmark data on these practices for each catchment.

In this publication, data are published for the 28 river catchments and for five Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions. Key features of each catchment region are discussed, and a map is included showing the location of each catchment within a NRM region. There are also a series of maps at the end the commentary that spatially represent some of the published data as well as a series of 12 tables provided as spreadsheets.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- The 28 catchments have a total area of 38.1 million hectares and in 2008-09 contained 17,104 holdings which used 28.5 million hectares for agricultural production.
- There were 4,523 holdings growing sugar cane, 1,670 holdings engaged in horticulture, 2,308 holdings growing broadacre crops and 12,550 holdings keeping beef cattle.
- Of the 17,104 holdings in the 28 catchment areas, 73% undertook one or more surface water run off management practices. Over one-third (39%) of holdings applied fertilizer and 60% applied herbicides.

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NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE NEWSLETTER

The latest issue of the NSS newsletter was released on 18 December 2009.

This issue features articles about the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard, the recently released Data Sharing Guide, the new 'Understanding Statistics' web pages on the ABS website, and the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children.

The National Statistical Service is the community of government agencies, led by the ABS

as Australia's national statistical organisation, building a rich statistical picture for a better informed Australia. It aims to develop and improve a statistical system that ensures providers and users of statistics have the confidence to trust the statistics produced within it.

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ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY NEWS, DEC 2009

[Environment and Energy News](#), Dec 2009 (cat. no. 4653.0) was released on 15 December 2009. This newsletter is released by the ABS Centre of Environment and Energy Statistics (CEES). Published twice a year, it highlights developments in environment and energy statistics particularly at the ABS.

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AG MAG - THE ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER, DEC 2009

[Ag Mag - The Agriculture Newsletter](#), Dec 2009 (cat. no. 7101.0) was released on 14 December 2009. This electronic newsletter provides topical information about the agricultural statistics program of the ABS. It looks at the program's structure, responsibilities, outputs and the status of current projects.

This edition marks the end of a productive year for the program, with a range of products released and variety of surveys underway or in planning, including the 2011 Agricultural Census. Specially highlighted are the preliminary results of the 2008-09 Agricultural Survey, plans for the 2010-11 Agricultural Census, as well as progress on the Land Management Practices Survey of the Great Barrier Reef catchments being conducted in northern Queensland as input to the Australian Government's Reef Rescue Program.

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ABS FORWARD WORK PROGRAM, 2009-10 TO 2012-13

[Forward Work Program](#), 2009-10 to 2012-13 (cat. no. 1006.0) was released 30 September 2009. The ABS Forward Work Program (FWP) is produced annually and is one of the suite of ABS corporate publications.

The FWP provides background information about statistical and non-statistical programs across the ABS, their objectives and the outputs they produce. It includes details of past and current resource usage, and details developments in the work program for each of the statistical and non-statistical programs over the next three years. The FWP covers all programs in the ABS, across Central Office and all eight state and territory regional offices.

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ABS RELEASE INFORMATION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website provides the expected release details for all statistical products due for publication in the coming six months.

The web page 'Release Advice for ABS Publications for the Next Six Months' is revised on the ABS website at the beginning of each month. This six-month forecasting is intended to keep clients informed about products and when they will become available.

All ABS core statistical and other statistical publications that usually have a catalogue number will be detailed as well as prominent non-statistical publications such as the ABS Annual Report and Australian Statistics Advisory Council Annual Report.

For further information please access the following link [Release Advice for ABS Publications for the Next Six Months](#).

Information on all ABS product releases can also be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases**, **Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months** and **Main Economic Indicator Releases**.

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QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

The [Queensland theme page](#) provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

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Population



POPULATION

[Population change, Queensland](#)

[Regional population growth, Queensland](#)

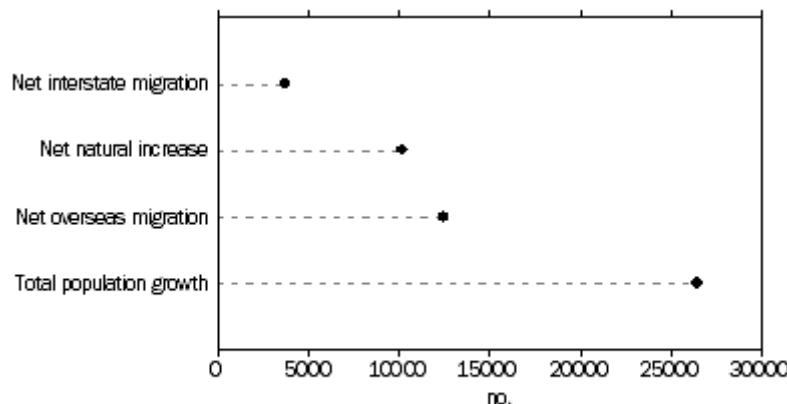
POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,406,800 at 30 June 2009, an increase of 112,900 (2.6%) since 30 June 2008. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 30 June 2009.

Between the March 2009 quarter and the June 2009 quarter, 47% (12,500 persons) of the total population increase of 26,400 persons was due to net overseas migration, 39% (10,200

persons) to natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and 14% (3,800 persons) was attributable to net interstate migration.

Population Change from Previous Quarter, Queensland - June 2009 quarter



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH, QUEENSLAND

At 30 June 2008, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,293,900 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton Statistical Divisions accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

Regional Population(a), By Statistical Division - At 30 June - 2001, 2006, 2007 and 2008

| | 2001 '000 | 2006 '000 | 2007 '000 | 2008 '000 |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Statistical division | | | | |
| Brisbane | 1 663.1 | 1 857.8 | 1 902.2 | 1 945.6 |
| Gold Coast | 387.1 | 466.4 | 484.6 | 497.8 |
| Sunshine Coast | 247.2 | 295.1 | 304.1 | 312.8 |
| West Moreton | 77.2 | 86.4 | 88.6 | 90.7 |
| Wide Bay-Burnett | 232.0 | 264.1 | 271.3 | 278.0 |
| Darling Downs | 209.0 | 225.8 | 228.8 | 231.6 |
| South West | 27.0 | 26.4 | 26.2 | 26.2 |
| Fitzroy | 186.5 | 206.2 | 210.9 | 214.8 |
| Central West | 13.6 | 12.5 | 12.4 | 12.3 |
| Mackay | 137.5 | 159.8 | 163.6 | 167.7 |
| Northern | 190.3 | 209.9 | 215.4 | 220.7 |
| Far North | 224.2 | 247.3 | 254.3 | 262.1 |
| North West | 34.3 | 33.2 | 33.5 | 33.7 |
| Queensland | 3 628.9 | 4 090.9 | 4 196.0 | 4 293.9 |

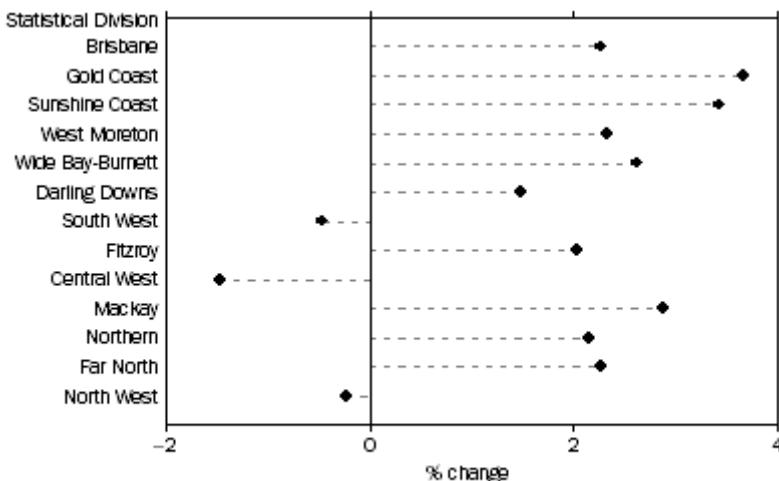
(a) Estimates as at 30 June are final for 2001, preliminary rebased for 2006 on results of the Census of Population and Housing, 2006, revised for 2007 and preliminary for 2008. For all years, Statistical divisions are based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2008 Edition.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing statistical divisions over the seven years between 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2008 were Gold Coast with an average annual growth rate of 3.7%, Sunshine Coast

(3.4%) and Mackay (2.9%). Three statistical divisions recorded negative average annual growth during the same period: North West (-0.2%), South West (-0.5%) and Central West (-1.5%).

Regional Population, Average Annual Growth Rate, at 30 June - 2001 to 2008



Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia* (cat. no. 3218.0).

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

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Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

[Job vacancies](#)

[Employed persons](#)

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[Participation rate](#)

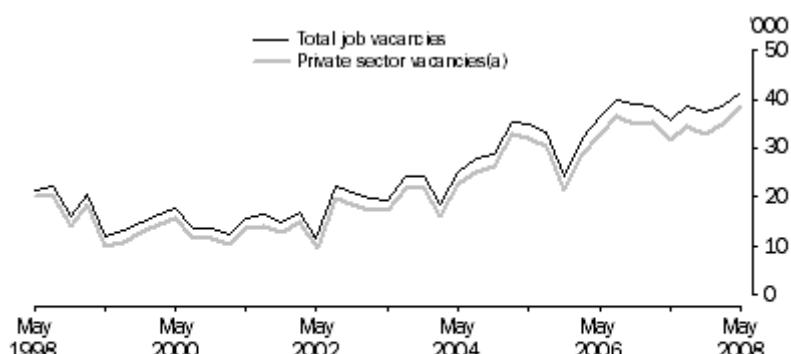
[Employed persons by industry](#)

JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies increased to 41,600 in May 2008 from 38,600 in February 2008. The May 2008 vacancies were 17% higher than in May 2007. Public sector vacancies accounted for around one in ten (7.7%) of total job vacancies.

in May 2008.

Job Vacancies, Queensland: Original



(a) Telstra Corporation changed from the public sector to the private sector between November 2006 and February 2007.

Source: Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0).

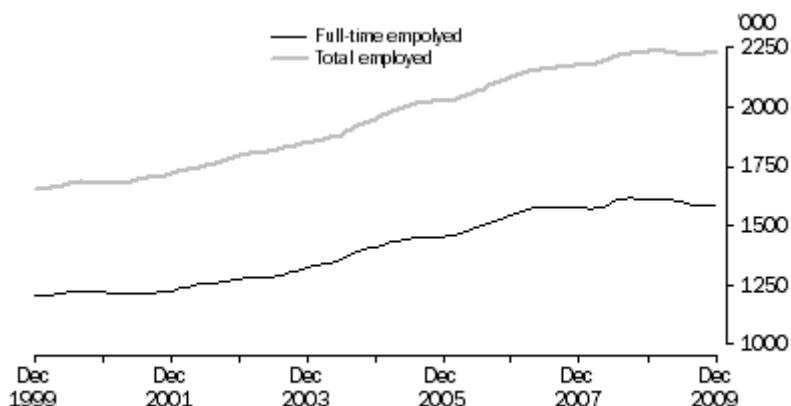
Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This is the final issue for 2008. The Survey of Job Vacancies will not be conducted during 2008-09. The survey will be reinstated for the November 2009 reference period.

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EMPLOYED PERSONS

In December 2009, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose slightly (0.2%) to 2,233,000 persons, the fifth monthly rise following five consecutive monthly decreases. Full-time employed persons (1,586,500) accounted for 71% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 64% of full-time employed persons and 54% of total employed persons.

Employed Persons, Queensland: Trend



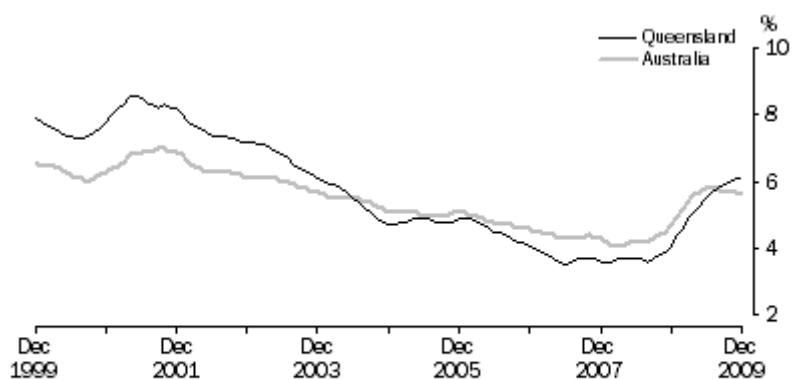
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

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UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland for December 2009 was 144,900 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 6.1%. In trend estimate terms, the Queensland unemployment rate has had sixteen consecutive monthly increases and for the last five months has been higher than the national unemployment rate.

Unemployment Rate(a): Trend

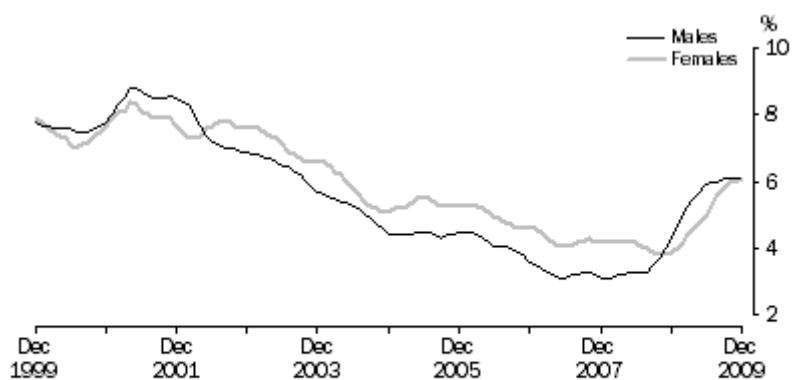


(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0).

In Queensland in December 2009 both the male and female unemployment rate was 6.1%. Since November 2008, female unemployment rates have been lower than or equal to male unemployment rates.

Unemployment Rate(a), Queensland: Trend



(a) Series break at April 2001.

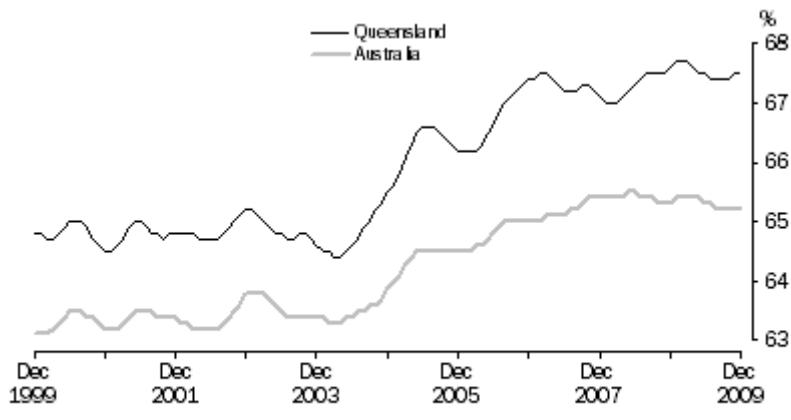
Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0).

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PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in December 2009 was 67.5%. This rate is 2.7 percentage points higher than in December 1999. Queensland has recorded equal to or higher participation rates than the national average since September 1988.

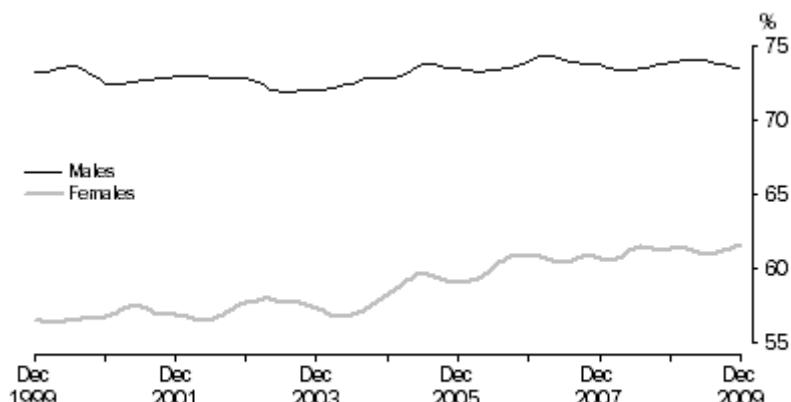
Participation Rate: Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been over 60% since June 2006 and recorded 61.6% in December 2009. This is a 5.0 percentage points increase over the female participation rate recorded in December 1999. The male participation rate in December 2009 was 73.5% which was 0.2 percentage points higher than the rate recorded for December 1999.

Participation Rate, Queensland: Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

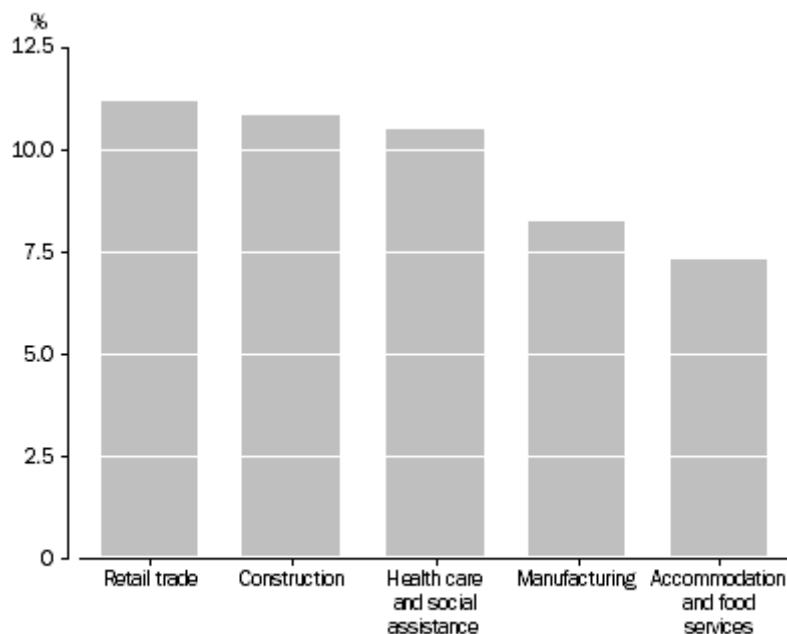
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,217,500 employed persons in Queensland in November 2009. The five industries with the most number of employed persons were Retail trade (247,000), Construction (239,600), Health care and social assistance (231,700), Manufacturing (183,000) and Accommodation and food services (162,000). Those industries employing the least number of persons included Electricity, gas, water and waste services (27,600), Information, media and telecommunications (30,100), and Arts and recreation services (37,500).

The five industries with the most number of employed persons accounted for almost one half (48%) of Queensland's employed persons.

Employed Persons by Industry, Percentage of total employed - Queensland: Original - November 2009



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year November 2008 to November 2009, the greatest proportional increase of employed persons occurred in the Wholesale trade industry (26%). In the same period, Information media and telecommunications had the greatest proportional decrease in employed persons with a reduction of 17%.

Note: Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared with the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Prices



PRICES

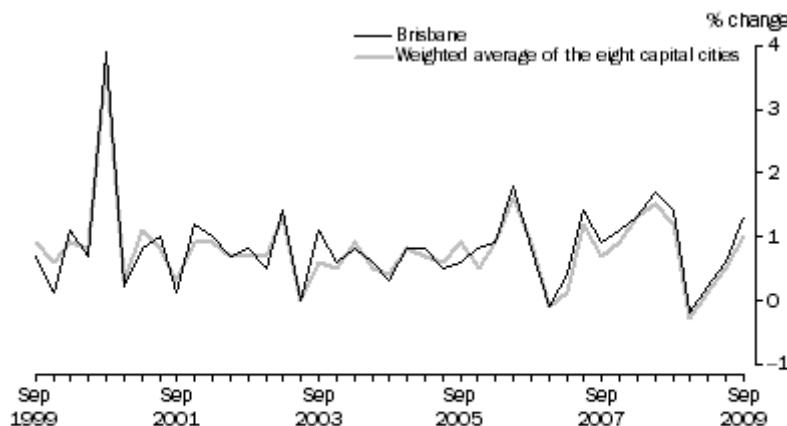
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 1.9% in the 12 months to September quarter 2009 compared with a 1.3% increase in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Darwin recorded the highest increase of any capital city (2.7%). Brisbane recorded the second highest rise of any capital city. The higher result in Brisbane was

largely due to stronger than average rises in housing and household contents and services.

Between the June quarter 2009 and the September quarter 2009 the Brisbane CPI increased by 1.3% compared with an increase of 1.0% for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Consumer Price Index, All Groups - Percentage change from previous quarter(a): Original



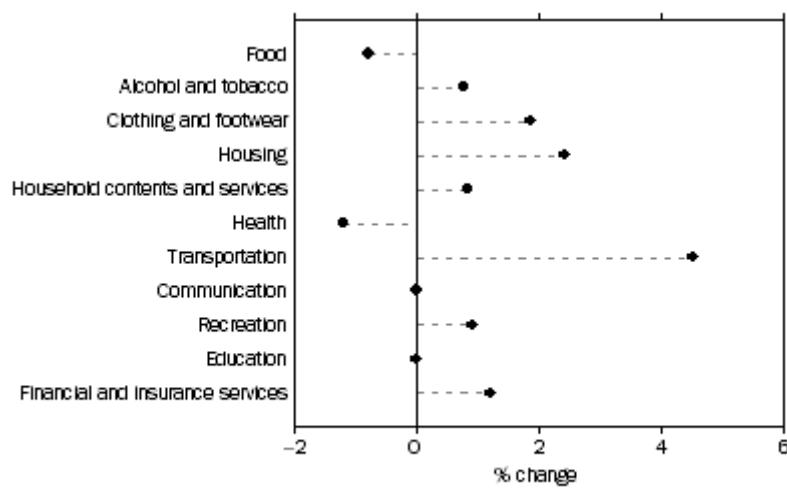
(a) The 2000–01 data were affected by the introduction of The New Tax System, in particular, the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from 1 July 2000.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

In the September 2009 quarter, the majority of Brisbane price categories groups increased compared with the previous quarter. The largest increases were Transportation (4.5%), Housing (2.4%) and Clothing and footwear (1.9%).

Over the same period, decreases were recorded for Health (-1.2%) and Food (-0.8%).

CPI Movement, Brisbane, Percentage change from previous quarter: Original - September 2009 quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Production



PRODUCTION

[Building approvals](#)

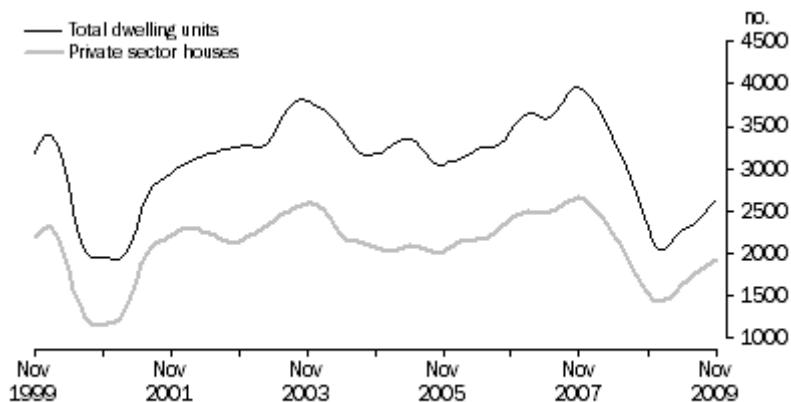
[Building activity](#)

[Engineering construction](#)

BUILDING APPROVALS

In November 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 2,651. This was an increase of 3.6% from the previous month, the tenth monthly increase following fourteen consecutive monthly falls. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 1,927 approvals which represents almost three-quarters (73%) of total dwelling units approved.

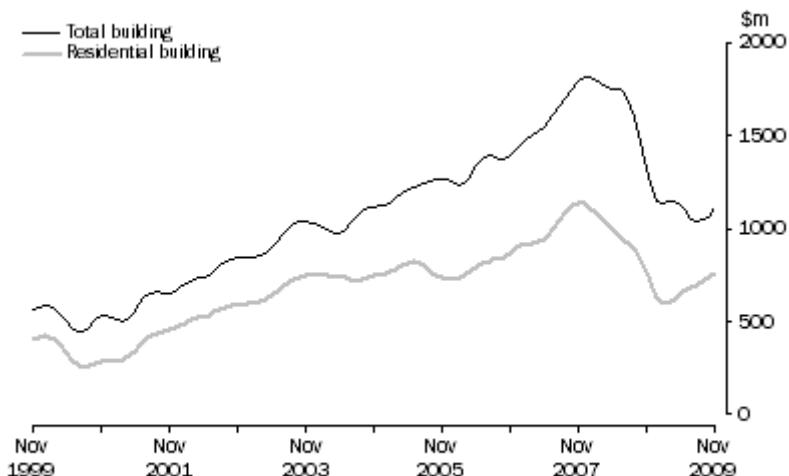
Dwelling Units Approved, Queensland: Trend



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0).

In November 2009, the total value of building approvals in trend terms was \$1,114 million, a 4.9% increase from the previous month and a 16% decrease from November 2008. Residential buildings accounted for 68% of the total value of buildings.

Value of Building Approved, Queensland: Trend



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0).

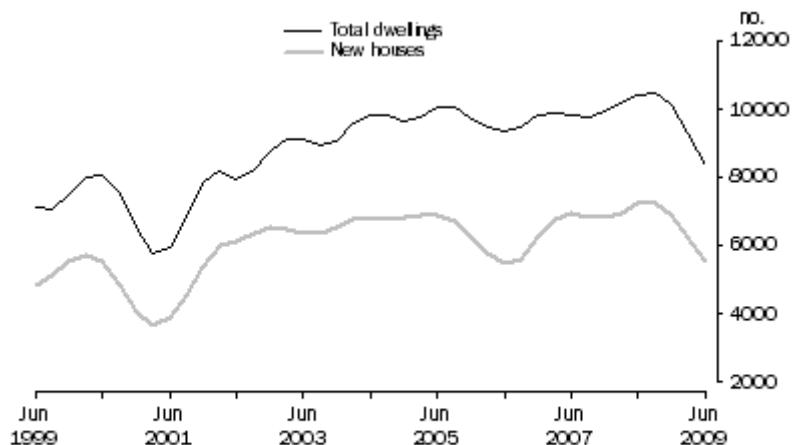
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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BUILDING ACTIVITY

In the June 2009 quarter, the total number of dwelling units completed in trend terms in Queensland was 8,337. This was a decrease of 10% from the March 2009 quarter. There were 5,524 new houses completed during the March 2009 quarter which represents 66% of the total number of dwelling units completed.

Dwellings Completed(a), Queensland: Trend

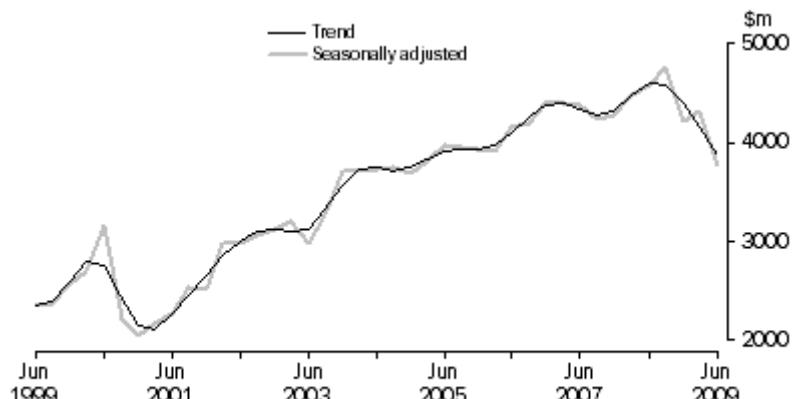


(a) Includes alterations, additions and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0).

In the June 2009 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$3,865 million. This was a decrease of 16% from the June 2008 quarter.

Value of Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



Source: *Building Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8752.0).

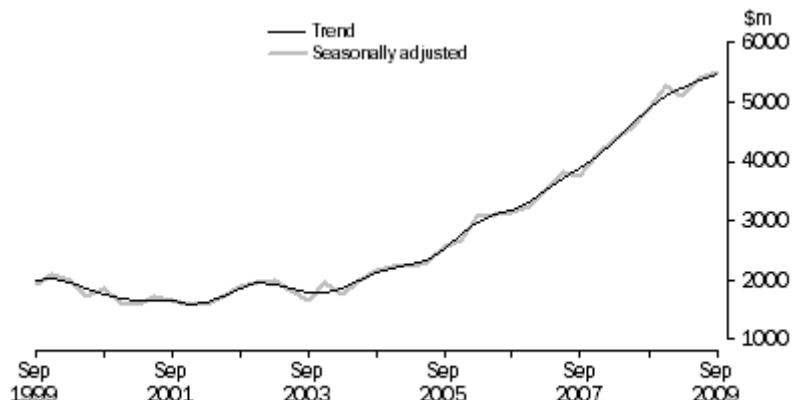
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the June 2009 and September 2009 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 2.0% to \$5,465 million. This continues the period of strong growth since September 2003 quarter.

Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



Source: *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8762.0).

For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Housing Finance

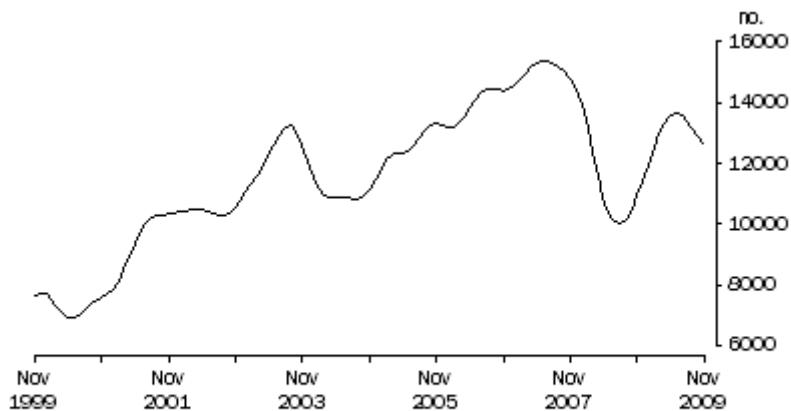


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

In Queensland, the number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms decreased to 12,603 (down 2.1%) from October 2009 to November 2009, the fifth monthly decrease after ten consecutive monthly increases.

Housing Finance Commitments, (Owner Occupation)(a), Queensland: Trend



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

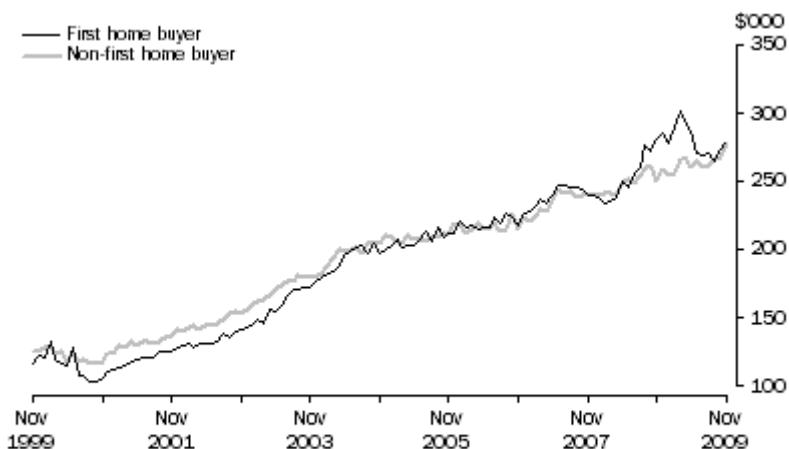
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland decreased by 1.2% to \$3,429 million, from October 2009 to November 2009. Over the year to November 2009, in trend estimate terms, the value of housing finance commitments showed an increase of 20%.

Since November 1999, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$123,000 to \$278,400.

In November 2009, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$278,500) increased 1.8% from the previous month. The November 2009 average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$278,300) increased 4.0% from the previous month.

Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Queensland: Original



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

Further information on this topic is available in [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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Incomes



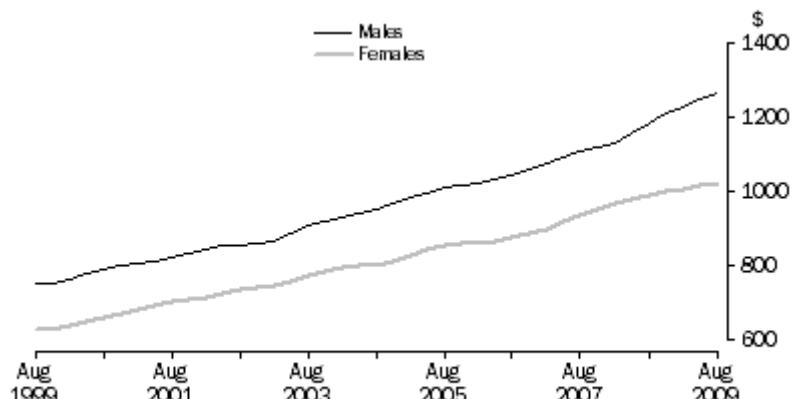
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 5.6% to \$1,177.00 in the 12 months to August 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.4% (up to \$1,201.90).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 6.6% for males and 3.1% for females over the 12 months to August 2009. The August 2009 female estimate of \$1,024.50 was 81% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1,263.80.

Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time, Queensland: Trend



Source: *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Consumption and Investment



CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

[Retail trade](#)

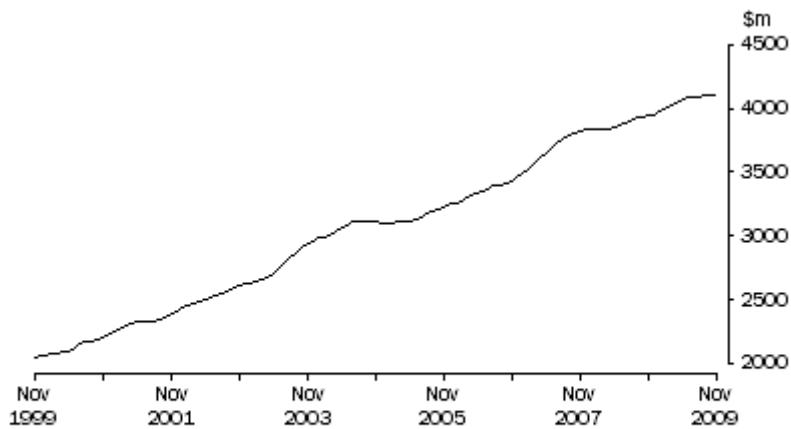
[New motor vehicle sales](#)

[Private new capital expenditure](#)

RETAIL TRADE

The November 2009 trend estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$4,104 million, an increase of 0.1% from October 2009. Food retailing accounted for the greatest proportion of retail turnover in November 2009, at 41%, followed by Household goods retailing, at 18%.

Retail Turnover(a), All Industries - Queensland: Trend



(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: *Retail Trade, Australia* (cat. no. 8501.0).

Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Following the Federal Government Budget in May 2009, the eligibility period for the Small Business and General Business Tax Break was extended to December 2009. The rebate level was also increased for small businesses, allowing eligible businesses to claim an increased tax deduction on the purchase of new motor vehicles.

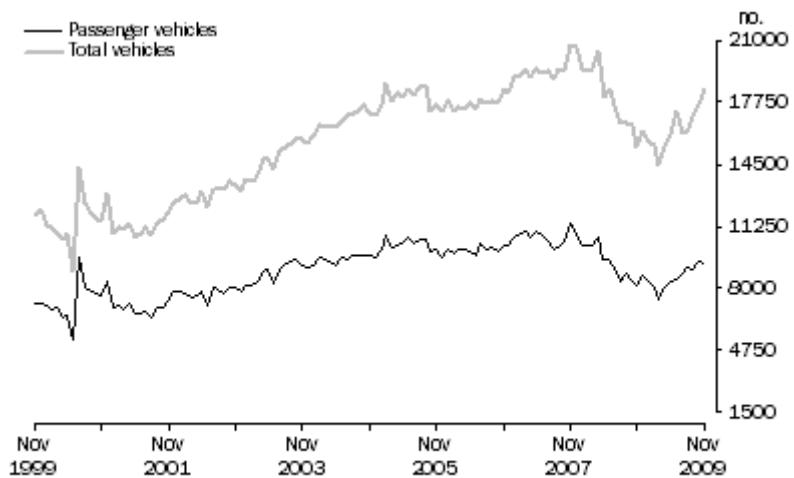
The trend series attempts to measure the underlying behaviour in new motor vehicle sales. In the short term, this measurement may be significantly affected by unusual influences in the original and seasonally adjusted data, like those observed in May and June 2009. If the trend estimates in the publication were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in new motor vehicle sales activity.

The new motor vehicle sales trend series has therefore been suspended from May 2009. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying behaviour of new car sales.

In seasonally adjusted terms, 9,273 new passenger vehicles and 18,377 new vehicles in total were sold in Queensland in November 2009. Corresponding sales for Australia were 47,574 and 85,943. When comparing November 2009 with October 2009, Queensland recorded a decrease of 1.6% in passenger vehicle sales. Total new vehicle sales increased by 4.5% over the same period.

In November 1999, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 61% of total new vehicle sales in Queensland. By November 2009, the proportion for new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 50%.

New Motor Vehicle Sales, Queensland: Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0).

Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9314.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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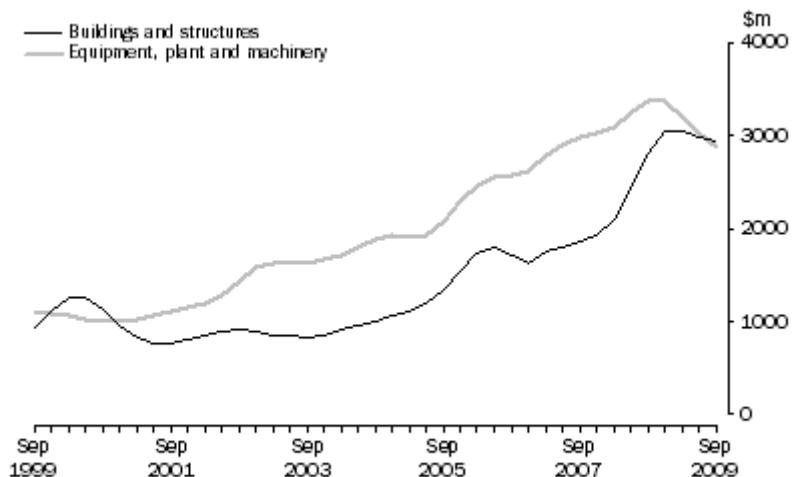
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the June 2009 and the September 2009 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 3.1% to \$5,820 million.

During the same period, expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 4.6% to \$2,886 million while expenditure on Buildings and structures decreased by 1.1% to \$2,944 million.

Comparing the September 2009 quarter with the September 2008 quarter, Queensland's total private new capital expenditure decreased by 5.9%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 14% and expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 5.0%.

Private New Capital Expenditure, Chain Volume Measures by quarter - Queensland: Trend



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0).

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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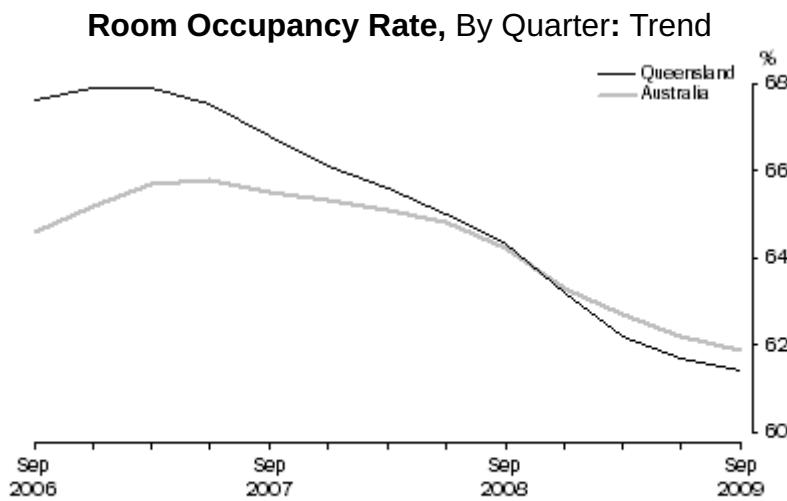
Tourist Accommodation



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the September 2009 quarter, there were 1,143 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 61,612 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland was 61.4%, slightly lower than the national average (61.9%).



Source: [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0), [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data - Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001).

In the September 2009 quarter, Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.8 million guest arrivals. Queensland establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days) of all states and territories. The national average was 2.3 days.

The trend estimate of Queensland total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms was \$498 million in the September 2009 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) and [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area](#)

Data, Queensland (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication and data cube are released quarterly.

Interstate Trade

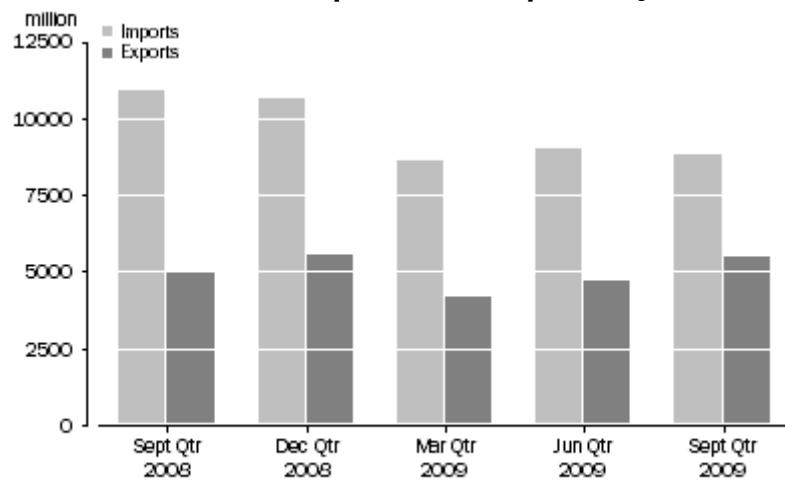


INTERSTATE TRADE

QUEENSLAND'S INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the September quarter 2009 was \$8,825 million, a 2% decrease from the previous quarter. The value of interstate exports in the September quarter 2009 was \$5,490 million, a 16% increase from the previous quarter.

Value of Interstate Imports and Exports, Queensland



Source: *Interstate Trade, Queensland* (cat. no. 8502.3)

Note: Interstate trade data are released quarterly. This is the sixth quarter for which the Queensland interstate trade estimates have been produced using sample survey methodology. As the new methodology differs significantly from that of the old survey, the results should be considered a break in series.

Further information on this topic can be accessed at Interstate Trade, Queensland (cat. no. 8502.3) or by contacting Queensland Interstate Trade on 1800 654 467. This publication is released quarterly.

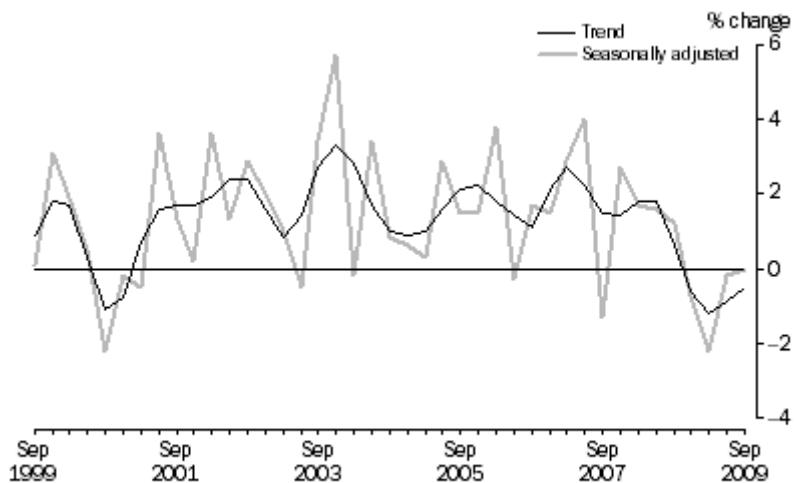
State Accounts



STATE ACCOUNTS

Queensland's September quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$60,423 million, a \$290 million (0.5%) decrease from the June quarter 2009. Australia's Domestic Final Demand increased 0.4% over the same period, to \$308,138 million.

State Final Demand, Chain Volume Measures -
Percentage change from previous quarter: Queensland



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0).

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Articles

ARTICLES

ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

Births, Queensland, 2008

Data for this article was taken from Births, Australia, 2008, which contains detailed statistics on live births: male and female births; births of Indigenous children; age and birthplace of parents; duration of marriage; previous children; nuptial and exnuptial births; single and multiple births; usual residence of mother (by state or territory); fertility rates and regional comparisons.

[Index of previous articles](#)

This provides a list of articles that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

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| September | Water Use on Queensland Farms, 2007-08 |
| August | Environmental Issues and Behaviour, Queensland, 2007-08 |
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| December | General Social Survey, 2006: Personal Stressors, Queensland |
| November | Census Data - Second Release |
| September | Young People in the Labour Market, Queensland, 2007 |
| | General Social Survey, 2006: Characteristics of Family and Community Support & Crime and Safety |
| July | Forms of Employment, Queensland, November 2006 |
| | Working Time Arrangements, Queensland, November 2006 |
| June | Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006 |
| May | National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Queensland, 2004-05 |
| | Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005 |

About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to

more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by using the links to source materials contained on each page.

Births, Queensland, 2008 (Feature Article)



BIRTHS, QUEENSLAND, 2008

[Introduction](#)
[Trends in fertility](#)
[Births](#)
[Further information](#)

INTRODUCTION

This article brings together latest statistics for births and fertility in Queensland. Data refer to births where the usual residence of the mother was Queensland and the year the birth was registered, unless otherwise stated.

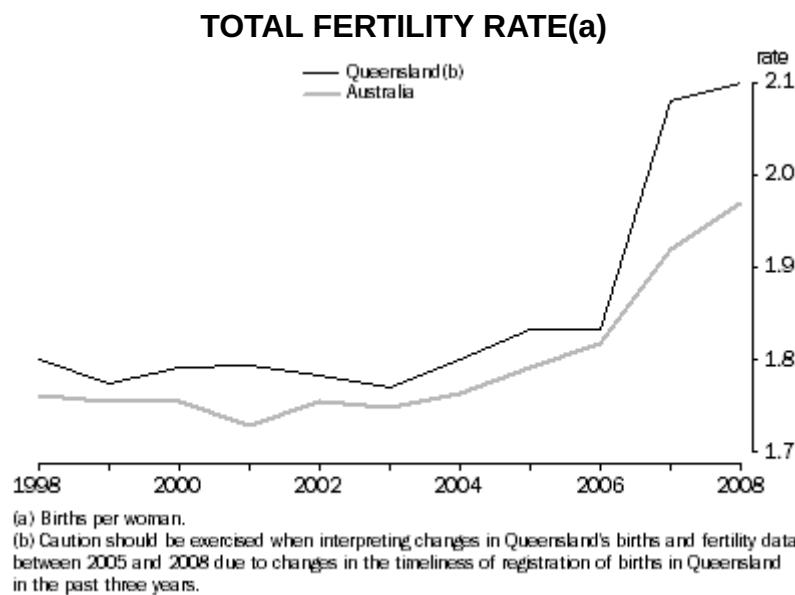
As a result of recent changes in the timeliness of registration of births in Queensland, care should be taken when interpreting changes in Queensland births between 2005 and 2008. In Queensland, 13.2% of the 62,800 births registered in 2008 occurred in 2007. This proportion, although lower than 2006 and 2007 (14.8% and 16.2% respectively), is still relatively high, indicating that the higher total number of births registered in Queensland in 2008 is to some extent due to changes in procedures for processing birth registrations by the Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, as well as increases in the absolute number of registrations processed in 2008.

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TRENDS IN FERTILITY

The total fertility rate (TFR) is the sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of babies a female would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life. Between 1998 and 2006 Queensland's TFR was around 1.8

babies per woman and in 2008 was 2.10 babies per woman. This was the highest rate recorded for Queensland since 1977 (2.11 babies). Over the last decade Queensland has consistently recorded a higher TFR than Australia.



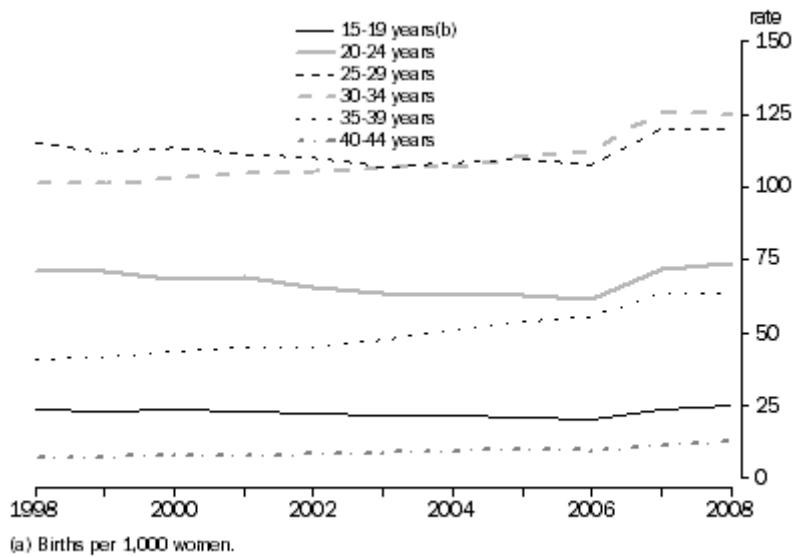
Age-specific fertility rates

Consistent with the overall increase in Queensland TFR, age-specific fertility rates for all age groups of mother increased between 2007 and 2008, except for women aged 30-34 years and 45-49 years.

Over the past few decades there has been a tendency for Queensland women to have their babies at older ages. This transition to an older age-specific fertility pattern is illustrated by the shift in peak fertility from women aged 25-29 years in 2004 to women aged 30-34 years in 2005. Since then, 30-34 years has remained the peak fertility age group, with 124.7 babies per 1,000 women in 2008 (down from 125.7 in 2007).

Women aged 25-29 years experienced the second highest fertility in 2008, with a rate of 119.8 babies per 1,000 women (up from 119.7 in 2007). In 2008, women aged 20-24 years and 35-39 years experienced fertility rates of 73.8 and 63.7 babies per 1,000 women respectively.

AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a), Queensland



Fertility rates amongst younger women have followed a declining trend over the last decade, however in recent years this trend appears to have halted with increases being recorded since 2006. Women aged 15-19 years experienced the greatest proportional decrease, with the fertility rate decreasing by 17% between 1998 and 2006 (from 23.6 babies per 1,000 women in 1998 to 19.7 babies per 1,000 women in 2006) but increasing to 24.7 babies per 1,000 women by 2008. Fertility rates for women aged 20-24 years decreased by 14% between 1998 and 2006 (from 71.3 babies per 1,000 women in 1998 to 61.2 babies per 1,000 women in 2006) but increased to 73.8 babies per 1,000 women in 2008.

In contrast, fertility rates for older age groups have increased relatively steadily between 1998 and 2008. The fertility rate for women aged 30-34 years increased 23% (from 101.6 babies per 1,000 women in 1998 to 124.7 babies per 1,000 women in 2008) and for women aged 35-39 years the increase was 56% (from 40.8 babies per 1,000 women in 1998 to 63.7 babies per 1,000 women in 2008). The fertility rate for women aged 40-44 years increased by 84% (from 6.7 babies per 1,000 women in 1998 to 12.3 babies per 1,000 women in 2008) as the trend towards older motherhood continued.

Total fertility rates in local government areas

In Queensland, local government areas with an estimated resident population of 20,000 or more recorded a wide range of total fertility rates. Mount Isa (C) recorded the highest rate of 2.73 babies per woman, followed by South Burnett (R) with 2.65, Dalby (R) 2.62 and Tablelands (R) 2.60. Of local government areas with an estimated resident population of 20,000 or more Brisbane (C) recorded the lowest rate of 1.69 babies per woman followed by the Gold Coast (C) with 1.72 and Whitsunday (R) 1.82.

Of the 28 local government areas with a population of 20,000 or more only 5 recorded a lower fertility rate than the Queensland average (2.00 babies per woman).

Total fertility rates were based on the average of births data for the three year period 2006 to 2008.

Data is also available for statistical local areas and statistical divisions. Please refer to *Births, Australia, 2008* (cat. no. 3301.0) data cubes for further small area data.

BIRTHS

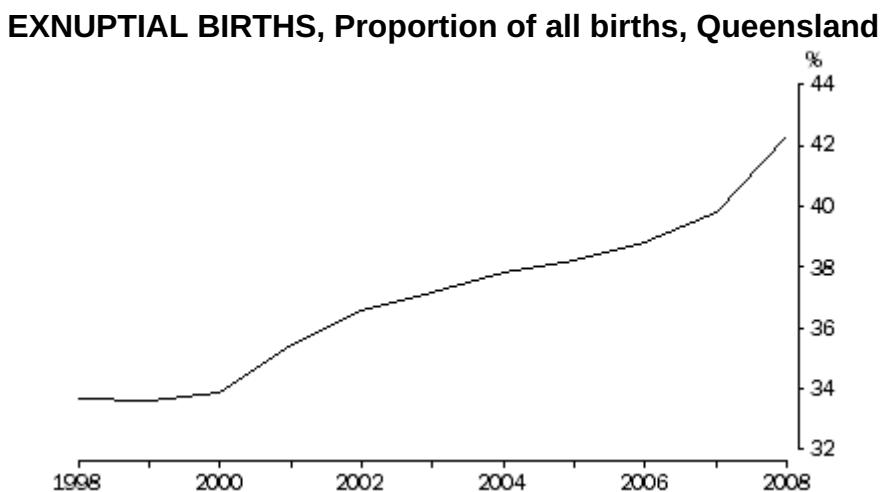
There were 63,132 babies born to 62,072 mothers who were usual residents of Queensland registered in 2008. This was 1,883 (3.1%) more births than the number registered during 2007 but below the national average increase of 4.0% between 2007 and 2008.

Sex ratio

Just over half (52%) of all births registered in 2008 were male babies, with the sex ratio at birth being 106.7 male babies for every 100 female babies. The Queensland sex ratio was higher than the national average (105.5 male babies for every 100 female babies).

Nuptial and exnuptial births

In 2008, 58% of births to Queensland mothers were nuptial births (births of children born of parents who are legally married at the time of the child's birth). Exnuptial births accounted for the remaining 42% of births, although many of these may have been to mothers in de facto relationships. The proportion of exnuptial births has been increasing steadily over the last decade with one in three (34%) births registered in 1998 being exnuptial.



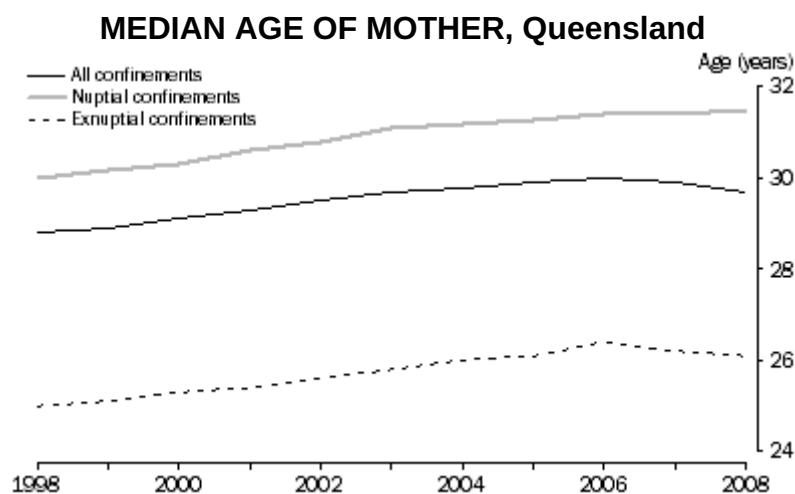
Acknowledgement of paternity

With exnuptial births comes the possibility that the father may not acknowledge the birth (that is, the father has not signed the birth registration statement). While the number of exnuptial births has increased greatly over the last decade, the proportion of these births in which paternity was not acknowledged has decreased. In 1998 around 14% of all exnuptial births were paternity not acknowledged, but by 2008 this proportion had decreased to 9.5%.

Age of parents at confinement

The median age of all Queensland mothers of births registered in 2008 was 29.7 years. Women who registered an exnuptial birth in 2008 had a median age of 26.1 years, over five years younger than women who registered a nuptial birth (31.5 years). The median age of women who registered an exnuptial birth where paternity was not acknowledged (24.9 years) was lower than the median age of women who registered an exnuptial birth where

paternity was acknowledged (26.2 years).



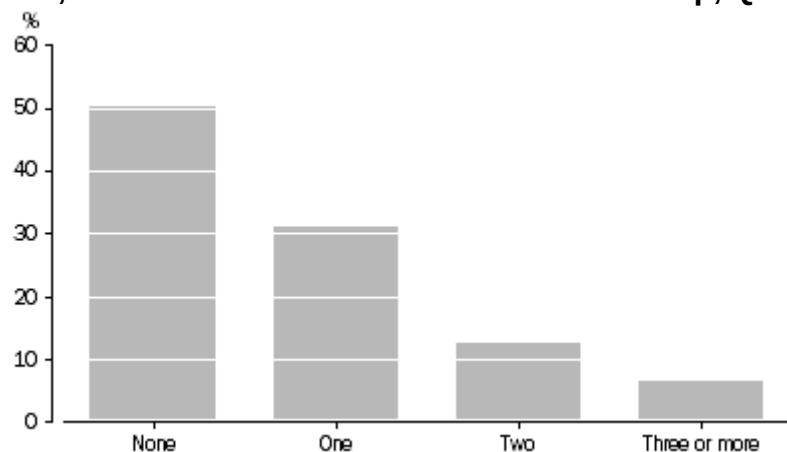
As age-specific fertility rates indicate, the median age of mothers is affected by current trends towards delayed childbearing, and repartnering and subsequent family formation following separation or divorce. Since 1998 the median age of all Queensland mothers has increased by 0.9 years.

The median age of all fathers has also followed an upward trend. Since 1998 the median age of all fathers has increased by 0.9 years to 32.1 years in 2008. The median age of married fathers was 33.6 years, while the median age of unmarried fathers who acknowledged paternity was 28.8 years.

Previous children of the current relationship

For births registered in Queensland only previous children of the current relationship are recorded. In 2008, just over half (50%) of the confinements registered in Queensland were to mothers with no previous children from the current relationship. Nearly one-third (31%) of confinements were to mothers with one previous child from the current relationship and 6.4% of confinements were to mothers with three or more children from the current relationship.

CONFINEMENTS, Previous Children of Current Relationship, Queensland, 2008



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births

Birth registrations classify a birth as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin

(Indigenous) where at least one parent identified themselves as being of Indigenous origin on the birth registration statement. Indigenous fertility rates refer to births to Indigenous mothers. Some Indigenous births are not identified as such when they are registered and there are known lags in the registration of Indigenous births. Data presented may therefore underestimate the levels of Indigenous births and fertility rates in Queensland.

In 2008, the TFR of Queensland Indigenous women was 2.7 babies per woman. There were 4,402 births registered where at least one parent identified themselves as being of Indigenous origin on the birth registration certificate. This is 1.9% lower than the number registered in 2007 and accounted for 7.0% of all Queensland births in 2008.

The median age of Queensland Indigenous women who registered a birth in 2008 was 24.7 years, five years lower than the median age of all mothers (29.7 years).

In 2008, 87% of Queensland's Indigenous births were exnuptial (that is, births to women who were not in a registered marriage at the time of birth) compared to 42% of all births.

Queensland accounted for 29% of Australia's Indigenous births registered in 2008.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on this topic can be accessed in *Births, Australia, 2008* (cat. no. 3301.0).

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